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DFD-3671

1 June 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting Chief, DFD-DD/P

THROUGH : Chief, Administrative Branch, DFD-DD/P

SUBJECT : Requesting Approval to ~~CHALLENGE~~ Clear Two NASA Officials to Explore Other Possible Peaceful- or R & D-Connected Usages of the U-2

1. Mr. Harry Press, NASA, requested that consideration be given to clearing Walter C. Williams, Chief, NASA High Speed Flight Station, and Joseph Weil, Chief, Stability and Control Branch, both of whom are employed at Edwards AFB. It was Mr. Press' desire that these two individuals be briefed in order that they could review the feasibility of utilizing the U-2 aircraft in certain R & D efforts in which NASA is currently engaged at Edwards AFB. He was thinking principally of possible utilization as a monitoring vehicle in connection with X-15 testing and also in connection with a special astronomical study they are conducting.

2. It is the opinion of this office that exploration into the possibility of other peaceful or research and development usages for the U-2 would be highly desirable. Use of the U-2 to monitor testing of the X-15, as an example, might help to justify the maximum security at Edwards AFB, something which has been inconsistent with our peaceful weather research cover story. In addition, other uses might promote diversionary speculation and further the life of the project. It is further the opinion of this office that approval should only be given at this time for exploration into possible uses of the U-2 in NASA programs and that Headquarters reserve specific approval of each proposed application until after complete review is effected.

3. With your concurrence the Security Section will proceed to process clearances for Messrs. Williams and Weil and will advise the Chief of Operations upon completion in order that he might implement talks between these two gentlemen and [redacted]

[redacted]

Security Officer
DFD-DD/P

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

**SUBJECT: Requesting Approval to CHALICE Clear Two NABA Officials
to Explore Other Possible Peaceful- or RAD-Connected
Usages of the U-2**

CONCURRENCES:

Acting Chief, DFD-DD/P

Date

COVER, DFD-DD/P

Date

OPERATIONS, DFD-DD/P

Date

Distribution
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